Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Original claims 1 – 9 (canceled).

Replacement claims 1 – 8 (canceled).

Claim 10 (new). A method for controlling a three-phase direct-current motor by way of a converter, which comprises:

cyclically repeating a sequence of six switching states of the converter, and thereby:

periodically switching over one of the three phases of the direct-current motor between a first and a second input voltage in each of the first three switching states, and keeping the remaining two phases continuously connected to the first input voltage;

inserting one second switching state respectively between two first switching states, the second switching state periodically switching over one of the three phases between the first and the second input voltage, and keeping the remaining two phases continuously connected to the second input voltage.

Claim 11 (new). The method according to claim 10, which comprises, in every second switching state, periodically switching over that phase which is periodically switched over neither in a preceding nor in a following first switching state.

Claim 12 (new). The method according to claim 10, wherein a fraction of the time in which the periodically switched-over phase is connected to the second input voltage from the duration of each first switching state is equal to a fraction of the time in which the periodically switched-over phase is connected to the first input voltage from the duration of each second switching state.

Claim 13 (new). The method according to claim 10, which comprises, in each second switching state, regulating a fraction of the time in which the periodically switched-over phase is connected to the first input voltage proportionally to a load on the direct-current motor.

Claim 14 (new). The method according to claim 10, which comprises, in each first switching state, regulating a fraction of the time in which the periodically switched-over phase is connected to the second input voltage proportionally to a load on the direct-current motor.

Claim 15 (new). The method according to claim 10, which comprises connecting an AC/DC inverter for controlling the direct-current motor, between each phase of the motor and a terminal carrying the first input voltage, respectively one first switch of the AC/DC inverter is provided and between each phase of the motor and a terminal carrying the second input voltage, respectively one second switch of the AC/DC inverter is provided, and in every first switching state, the first switch of the periodically switched-over phase remains open while the second switch of the phase is periodically switched over.

Claim 16 (new). The method according to claim 15, which comprises, in every second switching state, maintaining the second switch of the periodically switched-over phase open, while the first switch of the phase is periodically switched over.

Claim 17 (new). An AC/DC inverter, comprising a control circuit for carrying out the method according to claim 10.